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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-05 AID-05 /067 W
---------- 130790
R 111051Z JAN 75
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7515
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
EUCOM
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AFB GER
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 305

EO 11652 GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, TU, US
SUBJECT: PROPOSALS FOR PARLIAMENTARY DISCUSSIONS OF US-TURKISH RELATIONS

REF: ANKARA 238

SUMMARY: THERE SEEMS BE GROWING POSSIBILITY OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DEBATE (PERHAPS IN CLOSED SESSION) OF US-TURKISH RELATIONS, AND SENATE INQUIRY INTO BILATERAL AGREEMENTS HAS BEEN PROPOSED. CLIMATE OF OUR RELATIONSHIP COULD WELL SUFFER AS RESULT. AS REPORTED SEPARATELY, I HAVE REGISTERED CONCERN WITH FONMIN ESENBEL. END SUMMARY.

1. PARLIAMENTARY INTEREST IN EXAMINING U.S.-TURKISH RELATIONS IN LIGHT OF PROSPECTIVE FEBRUARY 5 AID CUTOFF EVIDENTLY IS GROWING. PRIMIN IRMAK, RESPONDING TO EARLIER MOTION FOR DEBATE ON SKBJECT (REFTEL)
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AND TO A CRITICAL SPEECH BY REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP)

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DEPUTY MEHMET SONMEZ, TOLD NATIONAL ASSEMBLY JANUARY 9 THAT
HIS GOVERNMENT WAS PREPARED TO PROVIDE INFORMATION FOR
A CLOSED-SESSION DISCUSSION OF RELATIONS WITH
U.S. AT SENATE SESSION SAME DAY, RPP SENATOR NIYAZI UNSAL
REQUESTED A SENATE INQUIRY INTO BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH
U.S. AND HOW THEY WERE BEING CARRIED OUT.

2. RPP DEPUTY (AND FORMER DEFMIN) HASAN
ESAT ISIK GAVE STATEMENT PUBLISHED IN PRESS JANUARY 11 IN
WHICH HE SUPPORTED MOTION FOR DEBATE AND OPPOSED
USE OF CLOSED SESSION FOR SUCH DEBATE. HE EXPLAINED:
"THE OBJECTIVE IS NOT TO WEAKEN OUR RELATIONS WITH AMERICA...
FRIENDS SERVE EACH OTHER NOT ONLY BY HARMONIZING THEIR
VIEWS, BUT ALSO BY OPPOSING VIEWS AND MAKING IT POSSIBLE
TO SEE THE TRUTH."

2. COMMENT: A. ACCORDING TO THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, THE RPP GENERAL DEBATE MOTION AND PRIMIN
IRMAK'S REQUEST FOR A CLOSED DOOR HEARING WOULD REQUIRE DECISION
BY PLENARY SESSION OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, PROBABLY SOME TIME
NEXT WEEK, AFTER WHICH A DATE WOULD BE FIXED FOR THE DEBATE.
SENATOR UNAL'S INQUIRY RESOLUTION PROBABBLY WOULD BE DISCUSSED, AT
THE EARLIEST LATE NEXT WEEK BY A PLENARY SESSION OF THE SENATE. IF
APPROVED, STANDARD SENATE PROCEDURE WOULD REQUIRE THE ESTABLISH-
MENT OF AN INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE WHICH WOULD DELIVER A REPORT,
NORMALLY WITHIN TWO MONTHS.

B. IF AN ASSEMBLY DEBATE IS HELD, EVEN BEHIND CLOSED DOORS, IT
WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY LEAK TO THE PRESS AS WOULD A SENATE
INQUIRY. CLIMATE OF US-TURKISH RELATIONSHIP CLEARLY WOULD
SUFFER.

C. AS REPORTED IN SEPTEL, FORMIN ESENBEL MENTIONED THIS SUBJECT
DURING MY CALL ON HIM JANUARY 10, AND I TOOK ADVANTAGE
OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO REGISTER MY CONCERN.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, FOREIGN RELATIONS, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellE0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ANKARA00305
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750012-0008
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750160/aaaacahu.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 ANKARA 238
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <25 SEP 2003 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROPOSALS FOR PARLIAMENTARY DISCUSSIONS OF US-TURKISH RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, TU, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006